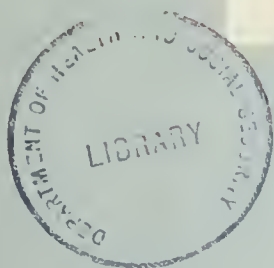


E  
AC-4411(3)

1. Date: ~~Dec. 1967~~  
2. ~~Mr. H.~~  
3. ~~Mr.~~



THE HEALTH  
of  
SAFFRON WALDEN  
RURAL DISTRICT  
in the year  
1967



THE HEALTH  
of  
SAFFRON WALDEN RURAL DISTRICT  
in the year  
1967  
being the  
**ANNUAL REPORT**

of the  
Medical Officer of Health

I. G. YULE,  
M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health, Saffron Walden Rural District Council;  
Medical Officer of Health, Borough of Saffron Walden;  
Area Medical Officer, Essex County Council, West Essex Health Area.

together with the  
**REPORT**  
of the  
Chief Public Health Inspector

A. ARMES, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.

Chief Public Health Inspector  
Saffron Walden Rural District Council

SAFFRON WALDEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

(As at 31st December, 1967)

Chairman

Councillor R.C. Heath

Vice-Chairman

Councillor Mrs. E.M. Keith

Councillor Major D.D. Bannerman  
Councillor R.A.H. Barltrop  
Councillor Mrs. H.M. Bruno  
Councillor J.H. Caton  
Councillor Mrs. G.C. Clarke  
Councillor Mrs. V.M. Cox  
Councillor N.F. Cross  
Councillor Mrs. B. Davis  
Councillor A. Edge  
Councillor B.E. Erith  
Councillor D.J. Evans  
Councillor A.J. Goddard  
Councillor P. Harding  
Councillor R.C. Heazel  
Councillor H.B. Hughes  
Councillor J. Hurwitz  
Councillor H.A. Knight  
Councillor Miss G. Lempriere  
Councillor Mrs. M. Leonard  
Councillor Mrs. S.L. Lloyd  
Councillor Mrs. J.M.D. Muir  
Councillor Commander C.H. Pollock  
Councillor Mrs. R.M. Pullman  
Councillor Miss G.E. Riche  
Councillor D.A.W. Thesiger  
Councillor Mrs. P.M. Trigg  
Councillor W.G. Turner  
Councillor Mrs. E.M. Whitehead  
Councillor C. Wright

Ex-Officio Members

Chairman of the Council

Councillor G.T. Nunn

Vice-Chairman of the Council

Councillor G.C.S. Curtis

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

I.G. Yule, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H., D.P.H.  
Medical Officer of Health

Pamela Hunter, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.  
Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Mrs. D.M. Redfern  
Secretary

A.Armes, F.R.S.H., F.A.P.H.I.  
Chief Public Health Inspector

G.E. Hawthorn, M.R.S.H.  
Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

N.L. Good, F.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.  
Additional Public Health Inspector

B.M. Curtis  
Student Public Health Inspector

J.A. Duerden  
Technical Assistant

Mrs. P.E.J. Saich  
Secretary

Mrs. L.I. Rawson  
Shorthand Typist (part-time)

SAFFRON WALDEN RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,  
69, High Street,  
Saffron Walden.

To the Chairman and Members of Saffron Walden Rural District  
Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit the following Report for the year 1967 concerning the health of Saffron Walden Rural District.

The Registrar General's estimated mid-year population of 19,230 shows an increase of 320 over the estimate for 1966. Approximately 40% of this increase represents the excess of births over deaths, the remainder being attributable to migration into the district. This, in the main, is of younger people and is serving to provide a more balanced community from the point of view of age structure. The increase in the birth rate may also be a reflection of this changing population structure. The adjusted birth rate of 19.9 per 1,000 population is well above the national figure of 17.2 per 1,000 which is falling. I have commented in some detail on the mortality statistics in the appropriate section of this Report, there was an increase in the total number of deaths which is reflected in the slightly increased mortality rates. These however are below the rate recorded for England and Wales as a whole, and the number of infant deaths remained the same as the previous year despite the increased birth rate.

The incidence of infectious diseases showed an increase in 1967 mainly due to the outbreak of measles early in the year. The fact that measles vaccine is available during 1968 to protect susceptible children under 15 years of age should lead to a reduction in the incidence of measles when the next anticipated wave of the disease commences towards the end of the year.

This is the last Annual Report concerning the health of the Rural District that I shall have the pleasure of introducing. I am therefore happy to record that the general health of the community as judged by the vital statistics remains very satisfactory. During my relatively short stay as your Medical Officer of Health I have had cause to be grateful for the help and support I have received from many people. In particular the members of the Council and its Officers together with the various voluntary and statutory services associated with health and welfare have all been ready to assist when necessary. I am pleased therefore to be able to express my sincere thanks to them and I am sure that my successor will receive their continued support.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

I.G. YULE

Medical Officer of Health



## SECTION A

### PROVISION OF MEDICAL SERVICES

#### 1. General Practitioner Services

These are provided by ten doctors who practice from surgery premises within the Rural District and by over twenty other practitioners from Cambridgeshire, Hertfordshire including Bishop's Stortford, Saffron Walden Borough and neighbouring parts of Essex.

#### 2. Hospital Services

These services are provided by hospitals in the East Anglian Regional Hospital Board and the North-East Metropolitan Regional Hospital Board. The hospitals which serve the Rural District are those in Saffron Walden, Cambridge, Newmarket and Bishop's Stortford.

Certain special facilities are provided as follows:-

Cases of Infectious Diseases requiring hospital care are admitted to Brookfields Hospital, Cambridge.

Maternity Cases are accommodated at Newmarket General Hospital, Cambridge Maternity Hospital and Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

Geriatric Units in charge of a Consultant Geriatrician have been established at Chesterton Hospital, Cambridge, Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford and St. James' Hospital, Saffron Walden and six beds are reserved for geriatric patients at Saffron Walden General Hospital. Particular attention is paid to rehabilitation.

Chest Clinics serving the Rural District are available at Saffron Walden General Hospital, Castle Hill, Cambridge and the Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

Treatment of Venereal Diseases is provided at the Clinic at Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge and at the Herts & Essex Hospital, Bishop's Stortford.

#### 3. Essex County Council Health Services

Apart from Ambulance and Mental Health Services, these are administered on an area basis, the Saffron Walden Rural District comes within the West Essex Health Area.

The Area Office is situated at Moot House Annexe, The Stow, Harlow (Tel: Harlow 25331). The following services and clinics are provided:-

Health Visiting This service exists particularly to advise mothers concerning the health of their children especially those under school age. The health visitor has, in addition to a wide nursing training, specialised training and experience which equips her to deal with many other social problems concerning the family and also the elderly and tuberculous.

The Health Visitors serving the Rural District are at present: Mrs. R. Hurst, Miss E.F. Jones, Miss A. Nicolle and Mrs. P. Patteson. They are based at the Essex County Council Health Services Clinic, 69 High Street, Saffron Walden (Tel: Saffron Walden 2194) and have a Branch Office at Hargrave House, Stansted, (Tel: Stansted 2055).

District Nurse and Midwifery These services are carried out by the following District Nurse/Midwives resident in the Rural District:

Miss E.K. Clark, 1 Merton Place, Littlebury (Saffron Walden 3155)  
Mrs. V. Cook, 9 Spencers Road, Gt.Chesterford (Gt.Chesterford 495)  
Mrs. A.G. Dutton, 11 Gaces Acre, Newport (Newport 346)  
Miss M.K. Everett, Nurses Bungalow, Elsenham (Stansted 2304)  
Mrs. A. Molineux, Woodcroft, Cambridge Road, Stansted  
(Stansted 2180)  
Miss K. Montgomery, 5 Thistley Crescent, Rickling (Rickling 236)  
Mrs. F. Patmore, 1 Rainsford Road, Stansted (Stansted 3256)  
Miss K. Vinall, All Saints Cottage, Ashdon (Ashdon 279)  
Mrs. J. Wheeler, 6 Mailers Lane, Manuden (Stansted 2348)

Home Help Service and Neighbourly Help Service Applications for these services should be made to the Area Medical Officer, West Essex Area Health Office, Moot House Annexe, The Stow, Harlow (Tel: Harlow 25331). The organiser for the Saffron Walden area is Miss S.J.V. Hefford.

Relaxation Classes for expectant mothers are held by appointment at Saffron Walden and Stansted.

Women's Welfare Clinic Advice on contraceptive methods is given to married women where pregnancy would be detrimental to health.

Care of Children up to School Age Child Welfare sessions in the Rural District are held normally from 2-4 p.m. as follows:

ASHDON	..	..	..	Baptist School Room	..	4th Thursday
CLAVERING	..	..	..	Village Hall	..	3rd Thursday
DEBDEN	..	..	..	Memorial Hall	..	4th Wednesday
"	..	..	..	R.A.F. Debden	..	1st Thursday
ELMDON	..	..	..	Parish Room	..	2nd Thursday
ELSENHAM	..	..	..	Parish Hall	..	1st Friday
GT. CHESTERFORD	..	..	..	Village Institute	..	1st Wednesday
GT. SAMPFORD	...	..	..	Village Hall	..	1st Thursday
HADSTOCK	..	..	..	Village Hall	..	4th Thursday
MANUDEN	..	..	..	Village Hall	..	1st Monday
NEWPORT	..	..	..	Village Hall	..	2nd Wednesday
SAFFRON WALDEN	..	..	..	County Health Services Clinic 69, High Street	..	Every Friday
STANSTED	..	..	..	Central Hall	..	1st & 3rd Wednesdays 2nd & 4th Tuesdays
WIDDINGTON	..	..	..	Village Hall	..	3rd Tuesday

Facilities are available either by the family doctor or at the Clinics for immunization against diphtheria, tetanus, whooping cough and poliomyelitis.



Cervical Cytology Clinic By appointment at the Health Services Clinic, 69 High Street, Saffron Walden on the 2nd and 4th Thursday mornings of each month.

Health of the School Child Routine medical inspections are carried out in this area on school entrants, school leavers and children in the 10-12 year age group. Special examinations are carried out as required. School children can be immunized against diphtheria, tetanus and poliomyelitis and those in the 12-14 year age group can also be vaccinated against tuberculosis, with their parents' consent.

Dental Service - treatment for school children is given at 69 High Street, Saffron Walden and inspections are carried out in schools.

Chiropody Clinics for the elderly, physically handicapped and ante-natal mothers are held at Stansted, Manuden and Saffron Walden, by appointment.

An Old People's Advisory Clinic is held on the last Wednesday of each month at 10.30 a.m. at the Health Services Clinic, 69 High Street, Saffron Walden.

The Mental Health and Ambulance Services are administered directly by the County Medical Officer, Health Department, 85-89 New London Road, Chelmsford.

Mental Welfare Officers for the West Essex Area are based at Harlow and can be contacted during normal office hours at Harlow 27421, at other times the Princess Alexandra Hospital, Harlow 26791 will be able to give the name and telephone number of the mental welfare officer on emergency call.

A Combined Training Centre for mentally handicapped children and adults is situated in Hill Street, Saffron Walden.


A day and night Ambulance Service is provided and there is an Ambulance Station at Saffron Walden.

Persons requiring an ambulance in an emergency should dial '999' and ask for an ambulance (where there is no dialling system it is sufficient to lift the receiver and ask for an ambulance).

Non emergency calls are only accepted from a hospital, a doctor or nurse, or other competent person, such as a mental welfare officer. Calls should be made to Chelmsford 54801.

#### 4. Laboratory Service

Bacteriological services for the Rural District are provided by the Public Health Laboratory, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge.



Digitized by the Internet Archive  
in 2018 with funding from  
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30065732>

## SECTION B

### STATISTICS

#### 1. GENERAL

Area (acres) .. .. .	78,223
Population (Registrar General's estimate for mid-year 1967) .. .. .	19,230
Population (Census 1961) .. .. .	18,140
Rateable value (April 1st, 1967) .. .. .	£608,342
Sum represented by a Penny Rate (year ended 31.3.67) .. .. .	£2,377
Number of inhabited houses .. .. .	7,000
Density of Persons per acre .. .. .	0.246
Density of Houses per acre .. .. .	0.089
Average number of occupants per house .. .. .	2.76

#### 2. VITAL STATISTICS

(a) Live Births (total) .. .. .	342
Males	Females
Legitimate .. 173	145
Illegitimate .. 12	12
(b) Live Birth rate per 1,000 population:-	
Crude rate .. .. .	17.8
Adjusted rate (Comparability Factor 1.12)	19.9
Rate for England and Wales .. .. .	17.2
(c) Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births .. .. .	7.0
(d) Stillbirths .. .. .	5
Stillbirths rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths .. .. .	14.41
(e) Infant deaths (Deaths under 1 year) .. .. .	6
Infant mortality rate (Deaths under 1 year per 1,000 live births) .. .. .	17.5
Infant mortality rate for England and Wales .. .. .	18.3
Neo-Natal mortality rate (Deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 live births) .. .. .	14.6
Perinatal mortality rate (Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 live and stillbirths) .. .. .	28.8
(f) Maternal mortality .. .. .	NIL
(g) Total deaths all ages .. .. .	201
(h) Death rate per 1,000 population:-	
Crude rate .. .. .	10.5
Adjusted rate (Comparability Factor 0.89) .. .. .	9.3
Rate for England and Wales .. .. .	11.2

MORTALITY TABLE

Cause of Death	Sex	Under 4 weeks	4 weeks & under 1 year	A G E I N Y E A R S							Total All Ages	
				1-	5-	15-	25-	35-	45-	55-	65-	75 & over
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	5	3
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	8	4
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	2	6	4
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	M	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	11	10	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	11	15	
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
16. Diabetes	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	9	8	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	3	16	16	
18. Coronary disease, angina	M	-	-	-	-	-	5	7	8	33	30	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	6	23	12	
19. Hypertension with heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	
20. Other heart disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	5	1	
	F	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	9	

21. Other circulatory disease	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	1	1	4	7
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	3	3
22. Influenza	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
23. Pneumonia	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	8	7
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	8	6	6
24. Bronchitis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	4
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	3	3
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	1
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
28. Nephritis and nephrosis	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
31. Congenital malformations	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	3	10	10	8
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	10	9	9
33. Motor vehicle accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	2
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	2
34. All other accidents	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
35. Suicide	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	1	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4	2	2
36. Homicide and operations of war	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	2	7	16	101	95
	F	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	2	2	-	2	2	14	100	93

COMPARATIVE TABLE OF VITAL STATISTICS

	1967	1966	1965	1957	1927
LIVE BIRTHS					
No.	342	316	306	275	127
Crude Rate	17.8	16.71	16.49	15.6	13.1
Adj. Rate	19.9	18.71	18.46	17.47	-
INFANT DEATHS					
No.	6	6	4	6	9
Rate	17.5	18.98	13.07	20.98	86.6
MATERNAL DEATHS					
No.	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Rate	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
TOTAL DEATHS					
No.	201	188	185	181	151
Crude Rate	10.5	9.94	9.97	9.8	15.6
Adj. Rate	9.3	8.84	8.87	8.7	-
POPULATION (Estimated mid- year)	19,230	18,910	18,550	18,550	9,661



MORTALITY TABLE      -      MAIN CAUSES OF DEATH

There were 13 more deaths in 1967 than the previous year. The table shows that one of the main factors contributing to this is the increase in female deaths from coronary artery disease. The crude death rate of 10.5 per 1,000 population and the adjusted rate of 9.3 per 1,000 population represent a slight increase over the figures for 1966, both rates are however lower than the national figure of 11.2 per 1,000.

The total number of infant deaths under one year remained the same as in 1966, the slight fall in the infant mortality rate being due to the increase in the number of births. The main danger to infants occurs in the first week of life and five of the six deaths took place during this period.

The chief causes of death again fall into three main groups:

Diseases of the Heart & Circulation .. ..	103 deaths (88)	51.2%
Cancer (all sites) .. .. .	44 "	(42) 21.8%
Diseases of the Respiratory System .. ..	18 "	(23) 8.9%

1966 figures in brackets.

These groups represent the cause of four out of every five deaths. The striking figure, however, is that for diseases of the heart and circulation which is now responsible for one half of all deaths, and the main contributor is coronary artery disease. The cause of this disease is not yet fully understood, but from a variety of research which has been undertaken it appears to be associated with our modern way of life and factors such as obesity, lack of exercise, smoking and stress which contribute to many other diseases appear to be closely linked with the aetiology of coronary artery disease.

The message concerning preventive measures is clear therefore despite the fact that the picture concerning the disease is not yet complete.

When considering mortality statistics particular attention must be given to those deaths which were potentially preventable. Suicide falls into this category and the number of deaths from this cause increased from three in 1966 to seven in 1967. The background of each case varies but the need for early diagnosis and specialist treatment of mental illness together with adequate support from the community particularly for the elderly and others living alone is very clear.

# SECTION C

## Prevalence of and Control over Infectious and other Diseases

### (1) Notifiable Diseases

Notifications of the following infectious diseases were received during the year.

Disease	Total All Ages	Under 1 Year	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 9	10 - 14	15 - 24	25 - 60	Over 60
Measles .. ..	243	3	17	31	20	33	110	21	6	2	-
Shigella Sonne .. ..	4	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2	-
Infective Hepatitis ..	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	2
Salmonella Typhimurium ..	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever ..	13	-	-	1	1	3	6	-	2	-	-
Poliomyelitis ..	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Erysypelas ..	3	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	1
Acute Lobar Pneumonia ..	4	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Whooping Cough ..	19	-	1	1	5	3	7	1	1	-	-
Tuberculosis	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-

Disease	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
Measles .. ..	44	38	65	23	26	36	7	-	1	-	3	-
Shigella Sonne .. ..	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Infective Hepatitis ..	-	2	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	1	-
Salmonella Typhimurium .. ..	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever .. ..	-	-	-	6	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	2
Poliomyelitis .. ..	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysypelas .. ..	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Acute Lobar Pneumonia ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	1	1
Whooping Cough .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	4	-	3	6
Tuberculosis .. ..	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-

The increased incidence of infectious diseases reflects the outbreak of measles early in the year. There were also a number of cases of scarlet fever particularly in the summer and of whooping cough later in the year, most of these proved to be mild and did not lead to any serious complications.

The first case of poliomyelitis in the Rural District for a number of years occurred in April. Fortunately there were no further cases and the patient, who suffered from a moderate weakness of one arm, made a full recovery. Episodes such as this emphasise the importance of adequate protection against infectious diseases such as poliomyelitis, smallpox and diphtheria by appropriate vaccination and immunization particularly of children. The fact that the patient in this case had received poliomyelitis vaccine may well have had a material effect on the outcome.

Special efforts were made during the year to obtain the highest possible acceptance rates for these preventive procedures.

### Tuberculosis

There were three new notifications of cases of tuberculosis during the year, two pulmonary and one non-pulmonary. One of these patients left the district during the year and two other cases were removed from the register, one of these being the death recorded in the mortality statistics. The number of cases on the register at the end of the year therefore remained the same.

### (2) National Assistance Act 1948 (Section 47)

This Section gives power for the removal to suitable premises of persons who are suffering from grave chronic disease, or being aged, infirm or physically handicapped or living in unhealthy conditions are unable to devote to themselves, and are not receiving from other persons proper care and attention. This power is fortunately rarely required and is only used in very extreme circumstances; whenever possible attempts are made to provide services and assistance so that the person can remain in his own home. It was found unnecessary to take action under this Section during the year.

## SECTION D

### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

#### 1. Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

I am indebted to the Council's Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J.S.Y. Molineux) for the following report which relates to the position at 31st December, 1967.

##### Littlebury Sewerage Scheme

Construction of the scheme is now complete but connections cannot be made until the sewage disposal works at Great Chesterford, which also serves Littlebury, has been completed.

##### Great Chesterford Sewerage Scheme

The construction of sewers is well advanced and at the sewage disposal works construction is going ahead. It is hoped that the whole scheme will be completed towards the end of 1968.

##### Newport Sewage Disposal Works

Construction recently commenced in respect of these new works to replace the existing inadequate facilities.

##### Hempstead and Great Sampford Sewerage Scheme

The design has been completed and approval given by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. Tenders will shortly be invited.

##### Radwinter Sewerage Scheme

This has been approved by the Ministry, detailed design has been completed and construction should proceed at the same time as the Hempstead and Great Sampford Sewerage Scheme. All sewage flows from Radwinter will be pumped to the Great Sampford Sewage Disposal Works for treatment.

##### Elmdon and Chrishall Sewerage Schemes

The Elmdon part of the scheme has been submitted to the Ministry for approval and Chrishall should be submitted early next year.

##### Central Sludge De-Watering Plant

Construction is well advanced and it is hoped to have the plant in operation in early 1968.

##### Farnham Sewerage Scheme

The construction of a Pumping Station and Rising Main has been completed. The existing sewage disposal works at Farnham has been dismantled and all flows are pumped to Manuden Sewage Disposal Works.

##### Debden Sewerage Scheme

Construction of this scheme was completed during the year and properties are now being connected.



#### Stoney Common Sewerage Scheme

This involves the construction of sewers, Pumping Station and Rising Main enabling properties to connect to a sewer where none had previously been available. A tender has been accepted for this scheme and construction will start on the 1st. January 1968.

#### Elsenham, Henham and Ugley Sewerage Scheme

Regrettably it would appear that there is likely to be further delay on this scheme pending further investigation by the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

#### Langley Upper Green - Stage 1

The Pumping Station, Rising Main and Gravity Sewers to serve 10 dwellings at the southern end of the village have been completed.

#### Langley Upper Green - Stage 2

This scheme which involves the drainage of further properties in the village has been deferred by the Council until the completion of more urgent schemes.

#### Wicken Bonhunt Sewerage Scheme

A scheme for the drainage of this village will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval towards the middle of 1968.

#### Little Chesterford Sewerage Scheme

A scheme for the drainage of this village will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval towards the middle of 1968.

#### Hadstock Sewerage Scheme

A scheme for the drainage of this village will be submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government for approval early in 1968, but construction will have to wait until works have been completed within the South Cambridgeshire Rural District, since flows from Hadstock will be discharged into that Authority's sewers.

#### General

The Rural District comes within the areas of the Lee Conservancy Catchment Board, the Great Ouse River Authority and the Essex River Authority. The Catchment Board and River Authorities continue to exercise vigilance in the sampling of effluent discharged from the sewage disposal works to ensure that the Rural District Council complies with the high standard set by them.

## H O U S I N G

Housing conditions in the District are being continually improved with the rehousing of families in Council houses, the modernisation of both Council and private properties with the aid of grants and the action taken under the Housing Acts to deal with substandard dwellings.

The outstanding feature of the year was the completion and occupation of the block of flatlets at Mead Court, Stansted, a project which has received such favourable comment from many quarters. This type of accommodation, with its central heating and warden service, enables the elderly to live independent and active lives and reduces the demand upon County Council hostel accommodation.



TYPICAL RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSES OF PUBLIC WATER SUPPLIES  
(in parts per million)

TEST FOR	S O U R C E						
	Hempstead Works	Wenden Works	Henham Works	Newport Works	Linton Works (supplying Hadstock Parish)	Stansted Works	Elsenham Factory (Private supply)
Appearance.....	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Very faint opalescence with a few particles	Bright with a few particles	Clear & Bright	Clear & Bright	Slight Opalescence with a few particles
Colour (Hazen).....	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Filtered: 12
Turbidity (A.P.H.A.)	Nil	Nil	less than 3	less than 3	Nil	Nil	30
Odour.....	Very faint chlorinous	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Faint H <sub>2</sub> S
pH.....	7.1	7.1	7.8	7.2	7.3	7.2	7.3
Free CO <sub>2</sub> .....	45	50	8	37	28	30	33
Elect. Conductivity.	560	540	580	580	500	560	660
Total Solids.....	400	385	415	400	355	400	470
Cl. as Chloride.....	22	19	15	20	19	19	19
Alkalinity (Ca.CO <sub>3</sub> ).	275	285	250	275	245	255	310
Hardness (Total)....	320	310	310	325	275	310	295
" (Carbonate)	275	285	250	275	245	255	295
" (Non-carb.)	45	25	60	50	30	55	0
Nitrate Nitrogen....	3.7	5.2	1.6	7.4	9.4	7.0	1.2
Nitrite " ....	Absent	Absent	less than 0.01	Absent	Absent	Absent	Absent
Ammoniacal Nitrogen.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.01	0.18
Albuminoid. " .	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oxygen absorbed.....	0.10	0.15	0.10	0.05	0.20	0.05	0.10
Residual Chlorine...	0.07	Absent	Absent	0.02	Absent	0.05	Absent
Metals.....	Absent	Absent	Iron 0.12 Other absent	Absent	Absent	Zinc 0.8 Other absent	Iron 2.8 Other absent

Bacteriological examinations: All supplies were sampled regularly for bacteriological examination, and where reports proved unsatisfactory, immediate action was taken.

REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR 1967  
PREFACE

To the Chairman and Members of the Saffron Walden Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In my twenty-second annual report, in the pages which follow, I have presented a condensed account of various activities of the department together with statistics required by statute.

The public health inspector is chiefly concerned with the maintenance and betterment of environmental conditions and is constantly required to express opinions as to the likely effect proposed developments may have on the lives or working conditions of those residing or working in the area or buildings concerned. Such prior consultation is particularly important, especially when planning permission is sought for such projects as "factory farming" and industrial processes producing noxious fumes, waste products or excessive noise or in those instances where housing development might give rise to difficulties concerning refuse collection or domestic drainage.

Apart from these advisory functions, the inspectorate has a direct responsibility concerning the statutory obligations of local authorities and of these, undoubtedly, the most important relates to housing in all its aspects.

The investigation and recording of the housing conditions of applicants for council dwellings presents an ideal opportunity to examine the factors which produce this continual demand. This enables advice to be given regarding future building programmes and brings to light houses which call for repair or improvement so that rehousing can be followed by steps to bring about repair or modernisation of vacated premises so producing an overall improvement in housing generally.

Comment is made elsewhere in this Report on the meticulous care taken by the Tenancy Committee in selecting tenants and effecting transfers and exchanges so as to make the fullest possible use of the various types of dwellings. The large estate at Cannons Mead, Stansted, with its mixed development, provided three and four bedroom houses for growing families, bungalows for the middle aged and excellent, centrally heated, flatlets for the elderly. Many of these in the last two categories were formerly occupying properties too large for their needs and these dwellings were thus released for younger applicants. The smooth manner in which the whole operation of rehousing and exchanges of tenancies was carried out was an outstanding example of close co-operation between various Council departments.

The different types of Improvement Grants available to property owners enables them to carry out complete reconditioning and modernisation or, alternatively, requisite repairs and provision of modern sanitary amenities, the cost being partly borne by the local authority and Ministry. The process of advising, surveying, checking and preparation of reports is time consuming, but the final outcome is well worthwhile. At the time of writing this Report we await the promised introduction of legislation which will raise the level of grant-aid so as to bring it

into line with ever increasing building costs.

The provision of main drainage to an increasing number of villages, thanks to the activities of the Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J.S.Y. Molineux), and his Committee, will, of course, increase the demand for improvement grants and enable housing standards to be raised in these parishes.

The Council has been well to the fore in providing, some years ago, a regular weekly refuse collection service throughout the District besides the much appreciated "special service" dealing with collection of large articles of refuse which would otherwise present a problem for the householder and, possibly, add to the litter menace.

As succeeding paragraphs in the Report indicate an appreciable proportion of the time of the Inspectorate must be given to food hygiene, factory, offices and shops inspection, infectious diseases, sampling of water and ice-cream, abatement of nuisances, infestations, etc. Obviously, at times, some of these duties can receive only perfunctory attention despite constant support and hard work by members of the staff, both technical and clerical, to whom I am most grateful.

I should again like to record my thanks to my colleagues in other Departments for their continued co-operation and to all members of the Council for their much valued confidence.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

A. ARMES

Chief Public Health Inspector

## CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT

for the year 1967

During the year 4,069 visits were carried out and these are classified below. (Figures for 1966 are shown, in brackets, for comparison).

### Housing:-

Inspections in connection with Slum Clearance, Repairs, Overcrowding, Improvement Grants, etc.....	717	(578)
Dwelling houses inspected in detail in connection with Slum Clearance, Improvement Grants, Rent Acts, etc..	158	(134)
Investigations and re-inspections regarding Council house applications.....	695	(534)
Inspections of Council houses regarding transfers, cleanliness, management, lodgers, etc.....	400	(327)

### Public Health:-

Inspections and revisits regarding Public Health Nuisances.....	86	(112)
Inspections regarding proposed new drainage.....	53	(29)
Inspections and revisits regarding defective drainage..	284	(320)
Inspections regarding proposed sewerage schemes.....	99	(189)
Inspections and revisits in connection with Moveable Dwellings.....	148	(175)
Visits regarding Infectious Diseases.....	102	(253)
Visits in connection with Refuse and Night Soil Collection.....	547	(466)
Inspections regarding Water Supplies (other than visits for routine sampling).....	21	(28)
Number of Water Samples collected from main supplies, etc.....	188	(206)

### Food Premises and Food Inspections:-

Inspections of Food Shops, Restaurants, Canteens, Licensed Premises, School Kitchens, Dairies, etc....	152	(144)
Visits to Ice-Cream Premises.....	144	(158)

### General:-

Inspections of Factories, Offices, Shops, Outworkers Premises, etc.....	77	(72)
Visits in connection with Rodent and Pest Control (not including Operator's Visits).....	109	(49)
Miscellaneous Visits (Swimming pools, Animal Boarding Establishments, etc., etc.).....	89	(178)
Total number of visits.....	4,069	(3,952)

The various sections of the work of the department are commented on in the pages which follow.



## H O U S I N G

### (a) Housing demand and building programme:

In October, 1967, the Council considered the Tenth Report of the Joint Housing Sub-Committee. This Report contained the following information:-

#### Existing Council dwellings:-

Four-bedroom type houses.....	12
Three-bedroom type houses.....	715
Two-bedroom type houses.....	110
One-bedroom type bungalows and flats.....	67
Two-bedroom type bungalows and flats.....	275
<b>Total:</b>	<u>1,179</u>

Total number of Applications for Housing Accommodation. 529

Number of such Applicants considered as "Priority"

(This is determined after investigation of housing circumstances. Future programmes are based on this figure).

Overcrowded or "bedroom deficiency".....	5
Applicants (with children) sharing homes.....	16
Applicants (without children) sharing homes.....	12
Applicants occupying sub-standard houses.....	28
Applicants awaiting marriage.....	18
Elderly applicants unsatisfactorily housed.....	46
Miscellaneous (Eviction Orders, urgent medical reasons, etc.).....	5
	<u>130</u>

		<u>Phase 10</u>	
<u>Construction Programme in hand or approved:</u>		<u>Recommendations</u>	<u>Total</u>
Houses.....	13	6	19
Bungalows.....	132	14	146
		20 Dwellings	20
	<u>145</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>185</u>

Early in 1968, the Ministry of Housing & Local Government intimated that 91 dwellings could be included in the Council's programme covering the remainder of 1967 and 1968. The Architect was, accordingly, instructed to proceed with the 14 bungalows and 6 houses included in the above Recommendations.

During 1967, the number of dwellings completed or under construction was as follows:-

Number of Council dwellings <u>completed during 1967...</u>	85	(19)
Number of Council dwellings <u>under construction at</u>		
31.12.67.....	29	(79)
Number of private dwellings <u>constructed during 1967.</u>	144	(183)
Number of private dwellings <u>under construction at</u>		
31.12.67.....	266	(273)

(b) Selection of Tenants:

During the year, the Tenancy Committee dealt with tenancy selection in respect of 85 new dwellings and 21 existing dwellings falling vacant. At each meeting the Committee was presented with up-to-date information regarding each applicant's housing circumstances, together with reports on "under-occupation" of Council houses and applications for transfers and exchanges.

The completion of the Cannons Mead Estate at Stansted which comprises 2 four-bedroom houses, 16 three-bedroom houses, 13 two-bedroom bungalows, and 26 flatlets, enabled the Committee to give consideration to many applications from existing tenants for transfers to smaller or larger dwellings to suit family requirements. The fact that the Committee met on numerous occasions involving a total of over 40 hours indicates the care and consideration which is given to tenancy selection. The figures below (Details of Transfers, etc.) show how rearrangements resulted in the maximum use of available accommodation. Furthermore, this was accomplished without pressure being put upon tenants who are, however, paid removal expenses when they move from under-occupied houses to smaller dwellings.

Tenants selected during the year were chosen on the following grounds:-

Sharing homes.....	20
Bad housing conditions.....	29
Elderly people unsatisfactorily housed.....	26
Overcrowded or "bedroom deficiency".....	6
Eviction Orders or Formal "Notices to Quit".....	7
Caravan occupiers.....	6
Transfers and exchanges.....	58
On Medical grounds.....	12

Details of 58 Transfers and Exchanges:-

From one-bedroom dwelling to bedsitter flatlet.....	1
From two-bedroom dwellings to bedsitter flatlets....	2
From three-bedroom dwellings to bedsitter flatlets..	2
From two-bedroom dwellings to more suitable two-bedroom dwellings.....	7
From two-bedroom dwellings to three-bedroom dwellings.....	17
From three-bedroom dwelling to one-bedroom dwelling.	1
From three-bedroom dwellings to two-bedroom dwellings.....	23
From three-bedroom dwellings to more suitable three- bedroom dwellings.....	2
From three-bedroom dwellings to four-bedroom dwellings.....	2
From four-bedroom dwelling to three-bedroom dwelling.....	1

172 new applications for housing accommodation were received during the year. These were categorised, after investigation, as follows:-

Overcrowded or "bedroom deficiency".....	2
Sharing homes.....	22
Bad housing (disrepair, etc.).....	9



Requiring better sanitary amenities.....	49
Under formal "Notice to Quit" or Court Orders.....	11
Medical reasons.....	4
Awaiting marriage.....	14
Occupying "tied" houses.....	38
Occupying temporary accommodation.....	2
To be nearer place of employment.....	4
Elderly people unsatisfactorily housed.....	12
Miscellaneous.....	5

40 existing tenants made application for transfer to other accommodation more suitable for their needs.

189 names were withdrawn from the list of applicants for the following reasons:-

Purchased own houses.....	13
Found other accommodation.....	13
Housed by other local authorities.....	3
Removed from district.....	30
Deceased.....	5
No reply to "follow up" circular.....	7
Applications withdrawn.....	10
Granted tenancies.....	106
Refused to accept tenancies.....	2

(c) Council House Management:

83 Council tenants were authorised to take lodgers, permission only being granted where investigation showed that overcrowding or other unsatisfactory housing conditions would not be caused. An additional weekly charge of 5/-d. is payable but certain tenants are exempt (i.e. pensioners) in accordance with regulations.

8 tenants were warned regarding non-compliance with Tenancy Agreements (cleanliness, decoration, etc.), but in each case such informal action brought about an improvement.

By the end of the year 40 of the Council's pre-war houses had been reconditioned and modernised and plans were being prepared to proceed with work to 45 others.

(d) Action taken under the Housing Acts:

Action taken by the Housing, Sub-Standard Properties, Committee to bring about repair, closure or demolition of unfit dwellings was as follows (figures for 1966 in brackets):-

Number of Informal Repair Notices served.....	41	(20)
Number of Informal Notices complied with.....	30	(12)
Number of houses fully surveyed for housing defects.	134	(125)
Number of Statutory Repair Notices served (Section 9).....	24	(5)
Number of houses rendered fit after service of Statutory Notices.....	7	(3)
Number of Demolition or Closing Orders made.....	-	(-)
Number of houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders.....	-	(-)
Number of Demolition Orders replaced by Closing Orders	-	(1)

Number of houses voluntarily demolished by owners following informal action or acceptance of Undertakings.....	12	(2)
Number of houses included in Clearance Orders confirmed during the year.....	-	(-)
Number of houses demolished in consequence of Clearance Orders.....	3	(-)
Houses in existing Clearance Areas revoked under Section 24, Housing Act, 1961.....	-	(1)
Number of Undertakings accepted from owners (Section 16, Housing Act, 1957).....	23	(15)
Number of dwellings rendered fit after acceptance of Undertakings.....	18	(11)

(Note: The above figures do not include other properties improved in connection with Improvement Grants - see Paragraph (f) ).

(e) Housing Acts - "Slum Clearance Programme":

Progress made in connection with action regarding unfit dwellings since 1945 is shown below (figures in brackets show the position at the end of 1966):-

(i)	Houses subject to Demolition Orders and Closing Orders.....	11	(11)
(ii)	Houses demolished after issue of Demolition Orders and Closing Orders.....	26	(26)
(iii)	Houses subject to Undertakings accepted from owners (Section 16).....	105	(111)
(iv)	Houses rendered fit after acceptance of Undertakings.....	112	(94)
(v)	Houses voluntarily demolished by owners following action under the Housing Acts.	51	(39)
(vi)	Houses in existing Clearance Areas demolished.....	9	(6)
(vii)	Houses in existing Clearance Areas regarded as demolished and reconstructed or Orders revoked.....	31	(31)
(viii)	Demolition and Closing Orders revoked after dwellings rendered fit.....	11	(11)
(ix)	Houses in existing Clearance Areas.....	6	(9)
	Total number of properties dealt with up to 31st December, 1967.....	<u>362</u>	<u>(338)</u>

The number of unfit properties included in the returns submitted to the Minister of Housing and Local Government in 1955 and 1965 totalled.....

425

(f) Improvement Grants:

Every encouragement is given to property owners to take advantage of grant-aid in the improvement and reconditioning of properties. Upon enquiries being received a detailed survey of the dwelling is carried out so that owners are made aware of the works of improvement and repair required to comply with the standards.

Discretionary Grants are based on the "approved expense" calculated by the Engineer & Surveyor (Mr. J.S.Y. Molineux) whose co-operation in this work is appreciated. The Council always gives sympathetic consideration to applications for loans to cover that part of the cost not met by grant-aid.

To-date no applications have been received from tenants for compulsory action in respect of improvements under the 1964 Act.

During the year ending 31st December, 1967, the following grants were dealt with. (1966 figures in brackets):-

Discretionary Grants:-

Number of Grants approved by the Council...	33	(32)
Total "Approved Expenses" incurred by owners in approved schemes.....	£28,321	(£31,113)
Total sum of Grants approved.....	£10,593	(£10,982)
Number of schemes completed.....	28	(17)
Total sum of grants paid.....	£9,336	(£5,380)
Average grant per house.....	£333	(£316)

Standard Grants:-

Number of Grants approved.....	22	(20)
Number of schemes completed.....	20	(15)
Total sum of Grants paid.....	£3,892	(£2,670)
Average grant per house.....	£194	(£178)

The total progress made in both Grant schemes from their commencement up to 31st December, 1967, was as follows:-

Discretionary Grants:-

* Number of dwellings concerned in Grants approved.....	557
Total "Approved Expenses" incurred by owners in approved schemes.....	£393,167
Total sum of Grants approved.....	£166,726
Number of schemes completed.....	476
Total sum of Grants paid.....	£145,314

- \* 263 properties owner/occupied.
- 294 properties occupied by tenants (including 18 flatlets for elderly persons).

Standard Grants:-

* Number of Grants approved.....	203
Number of schemes completed.....	163
Total sum of Grants paid.....	£23,153

Amenities provided in the completed Standard Grant schemes:-

Baths.....	136	Water closets.....	147
Wash-hand basins...	144	Ventilated food stores.....	105
Hot water supplies.	153	Piped water supplies.....	5

- \*154 owner/occupied.
- 49 occupied by tenants.



(g) Rent Act (Certificates of Disrepair):-

No action had to be taken under this legislation during the year.

M O V E A B L E   D W E L L I N G S

When applications for Planning Permission in respect of caravans are made they are also investigated by this department so that information is available when successful applicants approach the Council for licences under the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act, 1960.

At the end of the year 12 licences relating to individual caravans were in force under the latter Act, and 3 sites licensed for more than one caravan; 2 of these were in respect of holiday camping sites.

In one case, where the land owner persisted in allowing the occupation of caravans after refusal of Planning Permission, prosecution was threatened and this resulted in the vacation of the site.

Numerous visits were paid to itinerant van dwellers parked on roadside verges and village greens and, although, in most cases the occupants moved on after a few days, action had often to be taken to remove quantities of litter, unwanted car parts, etc.

Towards the end of the year Circulars were received from the Ministry urging local authorities to consider the provision of permanent sites for van dwellers and the Council decided to give support to the provision of one or more small sites in suitable locations so that these folk, particularly the children, could be integrated into village life.

W A T E R   S U P P L I E S

The Lee Valley Water Company is responsible for the public water supply in the District. The excellent comprehensive Annual Report issued by the Company's Chief Chemist and Bacteriologist indicates that all the sources in this area are bacteriologically satisfactory. However, as a check, samples are submitted, by the department, for full chemical examination annually, and for bacteriological examination at regular intervals; this procedure also applies to a private supply serving a group of dwellings - all supplies are chlorinated.

The results of chemical examinations are given elsewhere in this report; the following table is a summary of bacteriological results.

Informal notices were issued in respect of 2 premises without a proper water supply and in each case were complied with.

Advice was given in a few cases where samples from private wells proved unsatisfactory; completion of the works suggested brought about considerable improvement.

Supply	No. of Samples submitted for Bacteriological Examination.	Number Complying with Standard.	Number found not to comply with Standard.
Stansted Area (Stansted Works)	24	24	-
Southern Area (Henham Works)	24	23	1
Central Area (Newport Works)	26	26	-
Western Area (Wenden Works)	26	26	-
Eastern Area (Hempstead Works)	22	22	-
Hadstock (South Cambs. R.D.C.)	12	12	-
Elsenham (Private supply)	54	51	3
Totals:	188	184	4

Resampling of supplies showing bacterial counts (which in each case were small) gave satisfactory results.

#### Swimming Pools:-

There are no public swimming baths in the District, but regular sampling was carried out from 2 school swimming pools. Whenever results showed a diminution of standard, the appropriate County Council department was informed. In this connection, there appears to be a need for closer and more specialised control and standardisation by the County Authorities.

### S E W E R A G E   A N D   D R A I N A G E

Considerable progress was reported during the year in connection with main drainage projects which are the responsibility of the special Committee advised by the Engineer and Surveyor (Mr. J.S.Y. Molineux). The latter was able to report completion of the sewerage schemes at Debden, Langley (Stage I), Farnham and Littlebury; work in connection with the sewerage of Great Chesterford continued satisfactorily.

Earlier in the year, the Ministry agreed to the tender in respect of the new works and sewer extension at Newport and also regarding the proposed Central Sludge Disposal Plant at Stansted. Ministry approval was also received in respect of the scheme for sewerage Stoney Common, Birchanger, and these works are now well in hand.

The Hempstead and Great Sampford Sewerage Scheme was also approved in principle.

Such progress will bring relief to a number of parishes particularly as there is no public cesspool emptying service and will also enable housing development to proceed.

41 instances of defective drainage were investigated during the year; these related principally to pollution arising from unsatisfactory septic tank installations, and matters were remedied after advice had been given to property owners.

## REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

Household refuse is collected weekly from the rear of all households and the contractor, working to the Council's specification, continues to give a very satisfactory service.

The material is disposed of by tipping at one main pit at Stansted and three subsidiary tips, but one of the latter was closed during the year. Hired mechanical equipment is used to level and cover at the tips but the lack of suitable covering material does, at times, create difficulties. Further investigation continued regarding a central disposal site for the whole District and, in this connection, Planning Approval was granted to the owner of a 30 acre sand-pit for reinstatement with household refuse. The use of this site for all refuse collected would remove the difficulties and drawbacks of dealing with scattered disposal points and enable a higher standard of controlled tipping to be achieved. Such a rearrangement becomes increasingly necessary owing to the nearness of recent housing development to the Stansted tip.

In addition to the weekly refuse collection service, the Council has, for many years, operated a "special collection" covering large articles of refuse and junk which all householders must discard from time to time. The collection of this material appears to be the most satisfactory method of preventing illicit dumping and, by providing this much appreciated service, we have anticipated the provisions of the recent Civic Amenities Act. During the year, 134 lorry loads were collected and properly disposed of at a cost of £311. 0. 0d.

Arrangements have also been made with a contractor for the removal of abandoned and worn-out vehicles for householders at a small charge. Fortunately, only a small number of such vehicles were illicitly abandoned in the District and these were dealt with in accordance with the provisions of the new Act.

The litter baskets provided throughout the area are emptied regularly by the refuse contractors.

The salvage of waste paper is encouraged by payment of a bonus to the employees and the amount baled and despatched to Messrs. Thames Board Mills, Ltd., was as follows:-

<u>1967</u>						<u>1966</u>		
		T.	C.	Q.		T.	C.	Q.
Weight of paper sold	.. ..	100.	15.	0.		70.	15.	0.
Income received	.. ..	£868.	5s.	3d.		£632.	17s.	9d.

Private contractors, employed by the Council, carry out weekly collection of night soil in the parishes of Great Chesterford, Littlebury and part of Newport. The firm also operates a private scheme for about 150 householders in other parishes.



## R O D E N T   C O N T R O L

A part-time rodent operator is employed to carry out free treatment at private dwellings and regularly treat refuse tips, sewage works, etc. Sewers are also regularly test-baited to detect rat infestation which is immediately dealt with.

Where business premises are treated, the full cost is charged; agricultural premises are not serviced by the Council. It was necessary to ask four farmers to deal with rat infestations discovered on agricultural land.

A summary of rodent control work during the year is shown in the following table:-

	Type of Property	
	Non/Agricultural	Agricultural
Number of properties inspected following notification .. ..	368	-
Number of properties inspected for reasons other than notification .. .. .	28	4
Number infested by:-		
(a) RATS .. .. .	374	4
(b) MICE .. .. .	22	-
Number of premises treated by Rodent Operator .. .. .	396	-

The destruction of 53 wasps' nests was carried out on request by householders whenever this was possible, a charge of 10/-d being made in each case.

## F A C T O R I E S   A C T S

Details of factories registered and inspections made, etc., are given in the following tables.

7 outworkers were included in lists received under Section 110 - the dwellings occupied by outworkers' were visited during the year.

### 1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health.

Premises	No. on Register	No. of Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	4	3	-	-
Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	61	29	2	-
Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises).	6	4	-	-
Total:	71	36	2	-

2. CASES in which defects were found.

Particulare	No. of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of Cases in which Prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Inspector	by H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S 1).....	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S 2).....	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S 3).....	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S 4).....	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S 6).	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S 7):					
(a) insufficient	1	1	-	-	-
(b) unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).....	-	-	-	-	-
TOTAL:	2	2	-	-	-

## FOOD AND FOOD PREMISES

(a) MEAT INSPECTION:

There are no licensed slaughterhouses in the District; meat supplies are obtained from wholesale suppliers outside the area.

(b) MILK AND ICE-CREAM:

Milk production is controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food and licensing and supervision of pasteurisation plants and of dealers in Designated Milk is dealt with by the Essex County Council.

Visits were paid to each of the Milk Distributors and Dairies registered by the District Council and conditions were found to be satisfactory.

82 vendors of ice-cream are registered by the District Council under the Essex County Council Act, all ice-cream retailed being pre-wrapped by the manufacturers. Two complaints regarding the condition of ice-cream on delivery were referred to the producers who immediately withdrew all faulty stocks and remedied faulty delivery arrangements.

127 samples of ice-cream were collected at random from retailers' premises and submitted to the Cambridge Public Health Laboratory. Results were classified as follows:-

M.H. Provisional Grade I.....	87
M.H. Provisional Grade II.....	26
M.H. Provisional Grade III.....	9
M.H. Provisional Grade IV.....	5

(c) OTHER FOODS:

Subsequent to notification by wholesalers and retailers, the following foodstuffs were surrendered on being found unfit for human consumption; steps were taken to ensure that such food was properly destroyed:-

Ham.....	518 lbs.
Bacon.....	2,534 lbs.
Ice-Cream.....	20 Packets
Frozen Fish.....	89 lbs.
Other Frozen Foods.....	43 Packets
Various canned foods.....	129 lbs.
Sweets (infested nuts).....	4 lbs.

Visits were paid to the only set of water cress beds in the District; samples taken of cress and of water flowing through the beds were adjudged to be of satisfactory standard.

Complaints regarding "mouldy" pork pies and soured cream were investigated and subsequently referred to the local authorities concerned with the processing.

(d) FOOD PREMISES, RESTAURANTS, CANTEENS, ETC:

There are 189 food premises in the District classified as follows:-

Butchers' Shops.....	8
General Stores (grocery and provisions).....	54
Bakehouses.....	3
Bakers' and Confectioners' Shops.....	2
Sweet Shops.....	7
Greengrocers.....	1
Fishmongers.....	1
Poultry Dressing Depots.....	1
Bacon Curing Establishments.....	1
Wholesale Provision Merchants.....	1
Cafés, Restaurants and premises serving meals.....	17
Canteens.....	4
Licensed Premises.....	67
School Kitchens and Central Cooking Depots.....	5
Schools serving meals.....	16
Preserve manufacture.....	1

8 of the above premises are registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act for the preparation or manufacture of sausages or preserved food, etc.

All food premises were visited as often as possible and action was taken during the year to deal with the following contraventions:-

Repairs to floors, walls, etc.....	9
Need for re-decoration.....	10
Insufficient or unsatisfactory toilet facilities...	4
Insufficient or unsatisfactory washing facilities..	6
Lack of cleanliness.....	5
Unsatisfactory ventilation.....	1

It was not possible to carry out regular routine inspection of birds at the turkey processing establishment, but occasional visits and examinations were made and advice given.

One small unsatisfactory poultry dressing establishment closed X down following strong representations regarding non-compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

Following the issue of the Ministry's Code of Practice relating to "Coin Operated Food Vending Machines" copies were forwarded to proprietors of establishments where these were known to be installed. Unfortunately, as in the case of the opening of new food premises, there is no compulsion on the proprietors to notify the local authority that such machines are being provided.

NOT LEGAL ACTION THROUGH  
THE MAGISTRATES. 35

DO NOT RECORD



### INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Investigations were carried out and the requisite action taken in connection with 13 cases of scarlet fever, 1 of infective hepatitis, 1 suspected poliomyelitis, 1 sonné dysentery and 3 cases of salmonella typhi-murium.

Full disinfection of rooms and bedding was carried out following the notification of an active case of tuberculosis.

Visits were paid to farm premises on receipt of reports of salmonella outbreaks among pigs, poultry and calves. Human handlers of the animals and birds were advised as to precautions necessary to avoid infection and check specimens were forwarded for laboratory examination.

### THE OFFICES, SHOPS & RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The inspection of premises registered under this Act continued throughout the year and the following are extracts from the Report forwarded to the Minister of Labour under Section 60 of the Act:-

TABLE A - REGISTRATIONS AND GENERAL INSPECTIONS

Class of premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Offices	-	14	3
Retail shops	2	28	14
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-	4	-
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	1	3	2
Fuel Storage depots	-	1	-
Totals	3	50	19

TABLE B - NUMBER OF VISITS OF ALL KINDS BY INSPECTORS TO REGISTERED PREMISES - 41

(In addition 8 visits were paid to premises which were found to be outside the scope of the Act).

TABLE C - ANALYSIS OF PERSONS EMPLOYED IN REGISTERED PREMISES BY  
WORKPLACE:-

Class of workplace	Number of persons employed
(1)	(2)
Offices	108
Retail shops	121
Wholesale departments, warehouses	82
Catering establishments open to the public	8
Canteens	8
Fuel storage depots	4
Total	331
Total Males	197
Total Females	134

TABLE D - EXEMPTIONS:-

PARTS I - IV (space (Sec.5(2), temperature (Sec.6),  
sanitary conveniences (Sec.9), washing  
facilities (Sec.10)) :- NIL

TABLE E - PROSECUTIONS:- NIL

Number of inspectors appointed under section 52(1) or (5)  
of the Act .. .. . 3

Number of other staff employed for most of their time on  
work in connection with the Act .. .. . Nil

Analysis of Contraventions found:-

Section 4 - Want of cleanliness.....	4
" 6 - Unsatisfactory temperature or absence of proper thermometers.....	2
" 8 - Inadequate lighting.....	5
" 9 - Unsuited or inadequate sanitary conveniences.....	4
" 10 - Unsuited or inadequate washing facilities.....	4
" 12 - Absence of suitable clothing accommodation.....	1
" 16 - Unsatisfactory floors, passages or stairs	3
" 17 - Inadequate fencing of machinery.....	2
Failure to provide the requisite information to employees.....	10
Total contraventions.....	35

22 Preliminary Notices were served in respect of these contraventions and 15 such Notices were complied with by the end of the year.

One minor notifiable accident was reported during the year.

#### M I S C E L L A N E O U S

5 Licences were renewed under the Animal (Boarding Establishments) Act, 1963, after reinspections of the premises concerned.

Two licences were issued under the Diseases of Animals (Waste Food) Order concerning the boiling of waste food for animal feeding.

Reports in connection with Searches under the Land Charges Act respecting 670 properties were forwarded to the Clerk of the Council.

Advice was given and, where necessary, disinfection was carried out in connection with infestations caused by ants, fleas, crickets, flies, cockroaches, cluster-fly and bats.

Informal action was successfully taken to abate nuisances arising from poultry keeping, fumes from corn driers, pig keeping, manure spraying and refuse burning.

Similar action resulted in the abatement of alleged noise nuisances caused by a dance band in licensed premises, dogs barking, radios used in the late hours and vehicle parking. A short educational course on "Noise and its Prevention" was attended by public health inspectors at the suggestion of the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

A. ARMES

November, 1968

Chief Public Health Inspector









